



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/064,952	09/03/2002	Alexander Farr	1665g1297102	4805

26496 7590 07/17/2003

GREENBERG & LIEBERMAN
314 PHILADELPHIA AVE.
TAKOMA PARK, MD 20912

EXAMINER

CHIANG, JACK

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2642

DATE MAILED: 07/17/2003

8

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/064952

Applicant(s)

Farr et al.

Examiner

J. Ching

Group Art Unit

2642

#8

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Response

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE IS SET TO EXPIRE -3- MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a response be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for response specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a response within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for response is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to respond within the set or extended period for response will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 9-3-02.
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- ☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other _____

Office Action Summary

CLAIMS

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Thornton (US 6082656).

Regarding claim 1, Thornton shows a headset comprising:

An earpiece (headset feature in 42);

A microphone (headset feature in 42);

A cord (44);

A lock switch (130); and

An electronic device (10) having an indentation (i.e. 28).

Regarding claims 2-11, Thornton shows:

The cord (44);

The lock switch (130) holds the earpiece, the microphone and the cord (42, 44) to the device (10);

Art Unit: 2642

The device (10) has an internal storage space (see fig. 3) for the cord (44), and does not interfere with the functions of the device (10);

The device (10) can be a phone/two-way communicator which usually has a calendar feature, a digital device, a MP3 player (see col. 1, lines 63-65),

3. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Palermo (US 5771438).

Regarding claim 12, Palermo shows a wireless headset comprising:

An earpiece (21);

A microphone (25);

A lock switch (inside 19, col. 4, lines 32-38); and

An electronic device (10) having an indentation (i.e. 19).

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thornton in view of Palermo et al..

Regarding claim 12, Thornton shows a headset comprising:

An earpiece (headset feature in 42);

A microphone (headset feature in 42);

Art Unit: 2642

A lock switch (130); and

An electronic device (10) having an indentation (i.e. 28).

Thornton differs from the claimed invention in that the headset is a wired headset instead of a wireless headset.

However, it is understood that if communication can be carried out through a wire, then it can also be done by wireless. This is shown by applicant's disclosure, in which it shows both wired and wireless headsets. In other words, there is no teaching of criticality for having a wired headset over a wireless headset, or vice versa. Further, Palermo also shows a wireless headset.

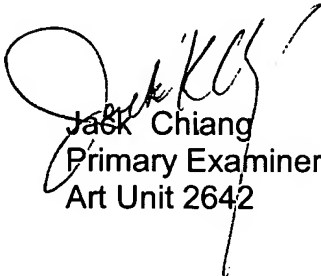
Hence, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to use a wired headset as shown by Thornton, or to modify the wired headset to have a wireless headset as taught by Palermo. This simply can be considered as a variation of Thornton's wired headset, because whether the headset is wired or wireless would not substantially change the operation of the headset.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jack Chiang whose telephone number is 703-305-4728. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. from 8:00 to 6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar, can be reached on (703) 305-4731. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9314.

Art Unit: 2642

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-4700.



Jack Chiang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2642